

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following represents a listing of the current status of all claims submitted in the application including the current amendments in which claims 29, 33, 37, 40-42 and 50-52 have been canceled and claims 25, 27-28, 35, 39 and 48 have been amended. New claims 53-58 have been added:

#### Listing of Claims

25(currently amended). A refuse collection vehicle for loading, compacting, transporting and ejecting refuse materials comprising:

- (a) a hollow refuse storage enclosure for containing compacted refuse having a forward refuse receiving opening, and a rear refuse discharge opening closed by a tailgate;
- (b) a generally full width charging hopper disposed forward of said storage enclosure for receiving refuse from refuse containers, said charging hopper having sidewalls and a floor and being in communication with said refuse receiving opening of said storage enclosure;
- (c) a followerless packer-ejector panel mechanism for moving refuse materials deposited in said charging hopper from said charging hopper into said storage enclosure, packing said refuse materials into said

storage enclosure and fully ejecting said refuse materials from said storage enclosure without the need of a follower panel;

- (d) one or more container handling devices selected from the group consisting of side-loading and front-loading container handling devices ~~and a combination thereof~~ for emptying containers into said charging hopper;
- (e) control system for controlling the operation of said packer-ejector panel in relation to said container handling device; and
- (f) wherein said control system includes controls to provide said ejector panel mechanism with a plurality of selectable packing stroke cycles of different lengths and time durations in the packing mode including a packing stroke cycle of shorter time duration than an emptying cycle of a corresponding container handling device such that said packer-ejector panel returns to a fully forward position before a new emptying cycle can allow deposit of material behind said packer-ejector panel.

26(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 25 wherein said packing stroke cycles include at least a short sweep cycle and a full packing cycle.

27(currently amended). A vehicle as in claim 25 wherein

said control system ~~selects~~ includes control devices to select a packing stroke cycle based on said corresponding container handling device in use being a front-loading or a side-loading device.

28(currently amended). A vehicle as in claim 26 wherein said control system ~~selects~~ includes control devices to select said packing stroke cycle based on a count of loading operations.

29-30(canceled).

31(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 25 including a truck chassis.

32(currently amended). A vehicle as in claim 25 wherein said one or more container handling devices includes both a side-loading container handling device and a front-loading device.

33(canceled).

34(previously presented). A side-loading, refuse collection vehicle for loading, compacting, transporting and ejecting refuse materials comprising:

- (a) a hollow refuse storage enclosure for containing compacted refuse having a forward refuse receiving opening, and a rear refuse discharge opening including a tailgate;
- (b) a generally full width charging hopper disposed forward of said storage enclosure for receiving refuse from refuse containers, said charging hopper having

sidewalls and a floor and being in communication with said refuse receiving opening of said storage enclosure;

- (c) a followerless packer-ejector panel mechanism for moving refuse materials deposited in said charging hopper from said charging hopper into said storage enclosure, packing said refuse materials into said storage enclosure and fully ejecting said refuse materials from said storage enclosure without the need of a follower panel;
- (d) a side-loading container handling system mounted from said vehicle capable of a handling cycle including lateral operation to access, empty and replace containers located to the side of said vehicle and which, when retracted, has a sufficiently narrow profile that fits within the lateral confines of the truck body;
- (e) control system for controlling the operation of said packer-ejector panel in relation to said container handling device; and
- (f) wherein said control system includes controls to provide said ejector panel mechanism with a plurality of selectable packing stroke cycles of different lengths and time durations in the packing mode including a

packing stroke cycle of shorter time duration than an emptying cycle of a corresponding container handling device such that said packer-ejector panel returns to a fully forward position before a new emptying cycle can allow deposit of material behind said packer-ejector panel.

35(currently amended). A vehicle as in claim 34 ~~wherein said container handling device includes an arm and a converging grabber and~~ 48 wherein said arm is mounted from a laterally extendable device..

36(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 35 wherein said laterally extendable device is a telescoping device.

37(canceled).

38(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 34 wherein said packing stroke cycles include at least a short sweep cycle and a full cycle.

39(currently amended). A vehicle as in claim 38 wherein said control system ~~selects~~ includes control devices to select said packing stroke cycle based on a count of loading operations.

40-42(canceled).

43(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 34 including a truck chassis.

44(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 25 including a front loading container handling device.

45(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 44 wherein said front loading container handling device is the only loading device.

46(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 45 including a truck chassis.

47(previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 28 wherein said packing stroke cycle is microprocessor controlled.

48(currently amended). A side-loading refuse collection vehicle for loading, compacting, transporting and ejecting refuse materials comprising:

- (a) a hollow refuse storage enclosure for containing compacted refuse having a forward refuse receiving opening, and a rear refuse discharge opening including a tailgate;
- (b) a ~~generally full-width~~ charging hopper disposed forward of said storage enclosure for receiving refuse from refuse containers, said charging hopper having sidewalls and a floor and being in communication with said refuse receiving opening of said storage enclosure;
- (c) a packer-ejector panel mechanism for moving refuse materials deposited in said charging hopper from said charging hopper into said storage enclosure, packing said refuse materials into said storage enclosure and

fully ejecting said refuse materials from said storage enclosure;

- (d) a side-loading container handling system mounted from said vehicle including a laterally extending device carrying a container lift and dump mechanism which includes a pivoting lift and empty mechanism having a pair of spaced main arms outwardly flanked by a pair of link arms, said main arms being connected to be pivoted at a fixed end by a double-ended hydraulic rotary actuator and journaled on a main arm common pin at a free end, said link arms being journaled to said mechanism at a fixed end and journaled on a link arm common pin at a free end, said link arm common pin being located at a fixed offset from said main arm common pin and a container grabbing device having opposed arms mounted in fixed relation to said fixed offset of said pins such that in the lowered stored position said main arms and said link arms align to provide a narrow profile which does not extend beyond the width of said collection vehicle when said lift and dump device is stowed next to said charging hopper.

49 (previously presented). A vehicle as in claim 34 wherein said side loading container handling device further contains a container lift and dump mechanism which includes a

pivoting lift and empty mechanism having a pair of spaced main arms outwardly flanked by a pair of link arms, said main arms being connected to be pivoted at a fixed end by a double-ended hydraulic rotary actuator and journaled on a main arm common pin at a free end, said link arms being journaled to said mechanism at a fixed end and journaled on a link arm common pin at a free end, said link arm common pin being located at a fixed offset from said main arm common pin and a container grabbing device having opposed arms mounted in fixed relation to said fixed offset of said pins such that in the lowered stored position said main arms and said link arms align to provide a narrow profile which does not extend beyond the width of said collection vehicle when said lift and dump device is stowed next to said charging hopper.

50-52(canceled).

53(new). A vehicle as in claim 48 wherein said arm is mounted from a laterally extendable device.

54(new). A vehicle as in claim 53 wherein said laterally extendable device is a telescoping device.

55(new). A side loading refuse collection vehicle for loading, compacting, transporting and ejecting refuse materials comprising a side-loading container handling system mounted from said vehicle including a laterally extending device carrying a container lift and dump mechanism which includes a pivoting lift

and empty mechanism having a pair of spaced main arms outwardly flanked by a pair of link arms, said main arms being connected to be pivoted at a fixed end by a double-ended hydraulic rotary actuator and journaled on a main arm common pin at a free end, said link arms being journaled to said mechanism at a fixed end and journaled on a link arm common pin at a free end, said link arm common pin being located at a fixed offset from said main arm common pin and a container grabbing device having opposed arms mounted in fixed relation to said fixed offset of said pins such that in the lowered stored position said main arms and said link arms align to provide a narrow profile which does not extend beyond the width of said collection vehicle when said lift and dump device is stowed next to said charging hopper.

56(new). A vehicle as in claim 55 wherein said arm is mounted from a laterally extendable device.

57(new). A vehicle as in claim 56 wherein said laterally extendable device is a telescoping device.

58(new). A vehicle as in claim 32 wherein said side loading container handling device further contains a container lift and dump mechanism which includes a pivoting lift and empty mechanism having a pair of spaced main arms outwardly flanked by a pair of link arms, said main arms being connected to be pivoted at a fixed end by a double-ended hydraulic rotary actuator and journaled on a main arm common pin at a free end, said link arms

being journaled to said mechanism at a fixed end and journaled on a link arm common pin at a free end, said link arm common pin being located at a fixed offset from said main arm common pin and a container grabbing device having opposed arms mounted in fixed relation to said fixed offset of said pins such that in the lowered stored position said main arms and said link arms align to provide a narrow profile which does not extend beyond the width of said collection vehicle when said lift and dump device is stowed next to said charging hopper.